



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 159

PRINTERS NO. 2326

PRIME SPONSOR: Polinchock

### COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23
General Fund	See Fiscal Impact	

**SUMMARY:** House Bill 159, Printer's Number 2326, amends Title 23 (Domestic Relations) in Child Protective Services. This legislation is effective in one year.

**ANALYSIS:** HB 159 amends the Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) in Title 23 to require a county children and youth services agency ("county agency") to include in the required written report of suspected child abuse information pertaining to whether the report concerns a military family. The phrase "concerns a military family" is defined to mean that, in a report, an alleged perpetrator of abuse is a service member, spouse of a service member or child of a service member, or that the alleged victim is the child of a service member.

The Department of Human Services must notify the Department of Defense, through the appropriate Family Advocacy Program representative, whenever a report of suspected child abuse concerns a military family. The Family Advocacy Program representative will have access to the report, which is generally confidential.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** According to the Department of Human Services there could be a minimal cost for upgrades to the Child Welfare Information System. These costs should be covered within existing resources.

**PREPARED BY:** Ann Bertolino  
House Appropriations Committee (R)

**DATE:** November 10, 2021

*Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.*